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Letitia Hester to Fanny Bracher, 4 December 1865

Blackwood Grange

Dec 4 1865

My dear Fanny

In the case of your dear little letter it was long looked for come at last, I thought perhaps you had taken it into your head to feel in a humour not to write and if you had you would have felt as I do some times I assure you I am the most Lazy good-for-nothing little creature you could have chosen as a correspondent only I try to be good sometimes especially when I get a letter from any one I care very much about — you ask if your cousins are pretty, I can only say that for a large family they are wonderfully well, there is not a sweeter little creature in the world than baby Gerald they differ very much in *style* and *complexion* Frances is quite fair Amy a rich brunette Gussy dark without the richness of Amy Louisa fair like Frances Flora dark, Eva fair Teddy & Godfrey both dark — and mine Valentine dark and a regular Hester Alice dark with rosy cheeks and Reginald fair & rather pale I hope to be able to send you a likeness of each of them some day & I sd be delighted to receive yours, you must not tell *me* you have an objection — I wonder whether we shall ever meet what a delight it would be to me to be able to go and see my dear sister and meet you there. I don't know whether I told you I have a likeness of your mamma and your dear little sister Louisa I think she is such a pretty little darling I was so glad to hear you had such nice presents on your birthday I presume Aunt takes boys to teach because they are less trouble than girls would be, her income must amount to something worth having, I wish I was near enough to her to send *Val* and *Rege* wouldn't they be delighted they have scarcely seen a boy besides their two cousins

I enclose a little note from your Uncle Robert's sister, I thought you would like to read it, you would love her if you knew her she is such a nice good person she has been a widow these six years she has 5 boys the eldest is 18 years I'm afraid I shall be late for posting this so must

say good bye for the present Uncle Robert and the children join me in
kindest love to yourself Aunt & cousins

And believe me to be

your ever affect Aunt

Letitia Hester